

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 2, 5, and 12 as follows:

Sub B1 2. (Amended) The satellite broadcasting system of claim 1, wherein the receiver further includes:

A1 concy selecting means coupled with the receiving means for selecting one of the first and second communication channels and [developing] selecting a selected communication channel indication; and

communicating means for communicating the selected communication channel indication to the transmitter.

A2 concy 5. (Amended) The satellite broadcasting system of claim 4, wherein the transmitter is responsive to the selected communication channel indication and thereby transmits to the receiver on the selected communication channel.

12. (Amended) The satellite broadcasting system of claim 1, wherein the transmitter further includes:

A3 concy selecting means coupled with the transmitting means for selecting one of the first and second communication channels for communication with the receiver and [developing] selecting a selected communication channel indication; and

notifying means responsive to the selecting means for providing the receiver with the selected communication channel indication.

Please add Claims 42 through 68 as follows:

--42. A system comprising:

a transmitting apparatus for transmitting data by a selected one of a plurality of satellite communication channels, the plurality of satellite communication channels comprising (a) a first satellite communication channel having a lower bit rate and a second satellite communication channel having a higher bit rate or (b) a first satellite communication channel having a higher signal power level and a second satellite communication channel having a lower signal power level; and

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cont a receiver for receiving data using a selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels,

wherein said receiver comprises a signal strength detector for detecting signal strength of the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels, and

wherein said transmitting apparatus changes selection of the satellite communication channel (i) from the second satellite communication channel to the first satellite communication channel in response to detection, by said signal strength detector of said receiver, of the signal strength of the second satellite communication channel being less than a predetermined value or (ii) from the first satellite communication channel to the second satellite communication channel in response to detection, by said signal strength detector of said receiver, of

the signal strength of the first satellite communication channel being greater than a predetermined value.

43. A system according to claim 42, wherein said signal strength detector detects signal strength by determining an energy-per-bit to noise ratio.

44. A system according to claim 42, wherein the plurality of satellite communication channels comprise the first satellite communication channel having a lower bit rate and the second satellite communication channel having a higher bit rate.

45. A system according to claim 42, wherein the plurality of satellite communication channels comprise the first satellite communication channel having a higher signal power level and the second satellite communication channel having a lower signal ~~power level~~.

Sub B 10 46. A system according to any of claims 42 through 45, wherein said transmitting apparatus changes selection of the satellite communication channel from the second satellite communication channel to the first satellite communication channel in response to detection, by said signal quality detector of said receiver, of the signal strength of the second satellite communication channel being less than a predetermined value.

47. A system according to any of claims 42 through 45, wherein said transmitting apparatus changes selection of the satellite communication channel from the first satellite communication channel to the second satellite communication channel in response to detection, by said signal quality detector of said receiver, of the signal strength of the first satellite communication channel being greater than a predetermined value.

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48. A system according to claim 42, wherein the plurality of satellite communication channels comprise the first satellite communication channel having a lower bit rate effected by BPSK modulation and the second satellite communication channel having a higher bit rate effected by QPSK modulation.

49. A system according to claim 42, wherein the first satellite communication channel and the second satellite communication channel are associated with different frequency bands.

50. A system according to claim 42, wherein the first satellite communication channel and the second satellite communication channel are associated with the same frequency band and have different polarizations.

51. A receiver for use in a system comprising a transmitting apparatus for transmitting data via satellite by a selected one of a plurality of satellite communication channels, said receiver comprising:

receiving means for receiving data using a selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels; and

signal quality detecting means for detecting quality of reception by the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels,

wherein the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels is selected in accordance with the quality of reception detected by said signal quality detecting means.

52. A receiver according to claim 51, wherein said signal quality detecting means detects signal strength of the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels, and the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels is selected in accordance with the signal strength detected by said signal quality detecting means.

53. A receiver according to claim 52, wherein said signal quality detecting means detects the signal strength of the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels by determining an energy-per-bit to noise ratio for the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels.

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54. A receiver according to claim 51, wherein said signal quality detecting means detects downlink signal attenuation of the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels, and the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels is selected in accordance with the downlink signal attenuation detected by said signal quality detecting means.

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55. A receiver according to claim 51, wherein the plurality of satellite communication channels comprise a first satellite communication channel having a lower bit rate and the second satellite communication channel having a higher bit rate.

56. A receiver according to claim 51, wherein the plurality of satellite communication channels comprise a satellite communication channel having a lower bit rate and a plurality of other satellite communication channels having a higher bit rate.

Sub B1 > 57. A system comprising:
a transmitter for transmitting data via satellite, said transmitter transmitting data on a selected one of a plurality of satellite communication channels; and
a receiver for receiving data using a selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels,

wherein either said transmitter or said receiver selects the one of the plurality of satellite communication channels on which data is to be transmitted from said transmitter to said receiver in accordance with load levels respectively associated with the plurality of satellite communication channels.

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cont 58. A system according to claim 57, wherein either said transmitter or said receiver selects the one of the plurality of satellite communication channels on which data is to be transmitted from said transmitter to said receiver by selecting the satellite communication channel having the lowest load level.

59. A system according to claim 57, wherein either said transmitter or said receiver selects a lower speed and/or higher power satellite communication channel only after using up all other higher speed and/or lower power satellite communication channels.

60. A system according to claim 57, wherein said receiver selects the one of the plurality of satellite communication channels on which data is to be transmitted from said transmitter to said receiver in accordance with information sent by said transmitter to said receiver representative of load level, bit rate, and/or power level of a satellite communication channel.

61. A system according to claim 57, wherein said receiver selects the one of the plurality of satellite communication channels on which data is to be transmitted from said transmitter to said receiver and transmits information identifying the selected satellite communication channel to said transmitter to cause said transmitter to transmit to said receiver on the selected satellite communication channel.

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62. A system according to claim 57, wherein said transmitter selects the one of the plurality of satellite communication channels on which data is to be transmitted from said transmitter to said receiver and transmits information representing the selected satellite communication channel to said receiver.

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63. A system according to claim 62, wherein said transmitter transmits the information representing the selected satellite communication channel to said receiver on a satellite communication channel to which said receiver is tuned.

64. A system according to claim 62, wherein said transmitter transmits the information representing the selected satellite communication channel to said receiver on plural satellite communication channels.

65. A system according to claim 57, wherein said transmitter comprises channel notifying means for notifying said receiver of the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels for said receiver to use to receive the ~~data~~.

Sub B12/ 66. A system according to claim 65, wherein said channel notifying means notifies said receiver via a telephone line, a packet network, or the internet.

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67. A system according to claim 65, wherein said channel notifying means notifies said receiver via a satellite return ~~channel~~.

68. A method comprising:
transmitting data from a transmitter via a selected one of a plurality of satellite communication channels; and
receiving data at a receiver using the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels,
wherein the selected one of the plurality of satellite communication channels is selected on a per receiver basis or is selected in accordance with load levels respectively associated with the plurality of satellite communication channels.--